GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3830
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2000
INSULIN OF DIABETICS
RAMJI MANJHI;UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that bovine insulin commonly used by diabetic patients is not available in the Capital and other parts of the country for the last couple of months and the patients are forced to buy imported expensive human insulin;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make available insulin in sufficient quantity in the country at cheap rates?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (c) There has been a temporary shortage of bovine insulin NPH which is manufactured by a private firm in Mumbai by importing crystals of bovine insulin. The other bovine insulin like bovine insulin (plain) and laute are however available. According to the manufacturers, the availability of bovine insulin crystal has decreased because of international threat of Madcow disease.